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Tuesday
NOVEMBER 13, 2012

★ **FREE** ★

A Chicago Tribune
publication

SHOULD JAY PLAY?

You can never be too careful
with concussions—or can you?
Bears proceed with caution **12-13**

Jay Cutler hangs his head during
an Oct. 22 game against Detroit.
JOSE M. OSORIO/TRIBUNE

CTA revs up express bus **4** Groupon feels the pinch **6** Reeling firefighters lose another **8**

BY JULIA BORCHERTS FOR REDEYE | REDEYE@TRIBUNE.COM » GET MORE EAT, DRINK, DO. IDEAS AT REDEYECICAGO.COM

DO

TAXI DRIVER Profiles Theatre

4139 N. Broadway 773-549-1815

When "Hellcab"—Will Kern's dramedy about a day in the life of a Chicago cab driver—debuted in 1992, it was scheduled for 12 performances but exploded into a run that lasted more than nine years and spawned productions across the country and around the world. The 20th anniversary remount features 34 actors, and the Tuesday preview show is half-price. 8 p.m. \$20. Tickets: profilestheatre.org.

HAIL HOGWARTS Broadway Playhouse

175 E. Chestnut St. 312-642-2000

"Potted Potter"—in which former BBC Television hosts Daniel Clarkson and Jefferson Turner condense all seven Harry Potter books into a fast-paced parody featuring multiple costume changes, comedic songs and an interactive Quidditch match—kicks off a five-week Chicago run and for the first two shows (Tuesday and Wednesday) you can save \$20 per ticket (regularly \$39.95-\$84.95) with the code FIRST. 7:30 p.m. Tickets: pottedpotter.com.



DRINK



IN THE SPIRIT The Anthem

1725 W. Division St.
773-697-4804

The Ukie Village sports bar celebrates its first anniversary with Spirit Week promotions. Tuesday, it's Nerd Day, which means you can sip \$7 Tanqueray Giml-ito cocktails—which, yes, are a geeky scientific mash-up of gimlets and mojitos—and a special \$10.99 cheddar-stuffed Juicy Lucy burger. 4 p.m.-2 a.m.

EAT

AMERICAN PIE Delightful Pastries

Chicago French Market, 131 N. Clinton St. 312-234-9644

What's Happy Hour without...pie? Yes, pie. Try samples of apple-caramel, cranberry-fudge, pecan-chocolate or—hey, it's November—pumpkin at this after-work Pie Tasting for the most American of all desserts. 4-6 p.m.

SPARKLE AND SQUAWK Pecking Order

4416 N. Clark St. 773-907-9900

Add a little sparkle to your poultry during Chicks 'n' Bubbles, where a tasting flight of four sparkling wines is paired with a Filipino-style marinated half-chicken served grilled, **fried** or roasted with two sides of your choice. 7-10 p.m. \$30 plus tax and gratuity.



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REDEYE TIP OF THE DAY

Punk marching band Mucca Pazza hits the Logan Square Auditorium on New Year's Eve with White Mystery and more: ticketweb.com

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TALKING SHOP

Retailers moving sales further into Thanksgiving Day

Reuters

Target and Toys R Us are joining the retailers offering holiday specials earlier, including on Thanksgiving Day, to kickstart the biggest selling season of the year.

The stakes are high for retailers, which earn more than a third of their annual sales in the holiday season. Traditionally, they have waited until Black Friday, the day after Thanksgiving, to make their big end-of-the-year push.

That is changing as retailers try to get shoppers into their stores before their rivals do, making Thanksgiving Day about more than eating turkey and watching football.

"The retail environment is always competitive—and most especially during the holiday season," said Troy Rice, executive vice president of stores and services at Toys R Us.

While retailers say people are eager to head to stores after their Thanksgiving meals, some employees wish they could still have the day off.

Target said it planned to open at 9 p.m. on Thanksgiving, three hours earlier than last year, when it was closed on Thanksgiving Day and opened at midnight for Black Friday.

Toys R Us, which opened its stores at 9 p.m. on Thanksgiving night last year, will open them an hour earlier this year.

"Customers repeatedly told us that they liked being able to do their Black Friday shopping after they had finished their turkey dinners, so they didn't have to spend all night outside in line and could sleep in on Friday," Rice said.

Several petitions have been created on website **change.org** suggesting that chains keep their doors shut on Thanksgiving. One petition from a Target employee who wanted the chain to remain closed on the holiday and avoid "Thanksgiving creep" had more than 148,000 supporters by Monday morning.

Target said that, anecdotally, many of its employees get excited about being in the store for Black Friday. It said it aimed to come up with staffing schedules that would meet the needs of workers and customers on Thanksgiving.



Black Friday shoppers leave a Toys R Us store in Fairfax, Va., on Thanksgiving last year. Toys R Us is joining the retailers offering earlier Black Friday deals as the holiday shopping season begins. GETTY IMAGES

THE LINEUP SO FAR

Here's what some of the big-name stores have planned for holiday specials.

• Gap

will open more than 1,100 of its stores across its Gap, Old Navy and Banana Republic chains on Thanksgiving, up from nearly 1,000 locations in 2011.

• Old Navy

plans to open about 780 shops on Thanksgiving this year, up from about 750 last year.

OPEN

• J.C. Penney,

which is trying to reverse a steep slide in sales while radically transforming its stores, said it would open at 6 a.m. on Black Friday.

• Wal-Mart Stores,

the nation's largest retailer, said last week that its specials would start at 8 p.m. local time on Thanksgiving, two hours earlier than last year.

• Sam's Club

will stay closed on Thanksgiving, as will rival warehouse club Costco Wholesale. Both will have online specials, however.

• Sears and Kmart

stores will be open on Thanksgiving Day.

• sorry we're CLOSED

• Best Buy, Macy's, Kohl's

said their stores would remain closed on Thanksgiving and open at midnight for Black Friday.

REUTERS

'Jump' start to CTA rapid bus service



GOING PUBLIC

Tracy Swartz

 @tracyswartz
 @tribune.com
 @tracyswartz

With its debut Monday of the "Jeffery Jump" route between downtown and the South Side, the CTA has taken a hop—but not a leap—toward rapid bus service.

The new J14 route along Jeffery Boulevard, which replaces the No. 14 Jeffery Express, features upgraded

bus shelters and fewer stops, but the main enhancements won't arrive until next year.

By spring, the CTA expects to create a system that would give early or extended green lights to buses between 73rd and 84th streets and implement a bypass lane at Jeffery and Anthony Avenue that would allow buses to whiz through the intersection. On-board Bus Tracker displays are set to arrive next year as well.

For now, riders can enjoy a quicker commute.

Going Public took the inaugural J14 ride from downtown to the 103rd Street bus garage at 5:30 a.m. Monday. There were only seven other riders on the bus, which is a standard CTA bus wrapped in blue.

The trip took 43 minutes—much faster than the 1 hour and 6 minutes it took GP to ride along the same route via the No. 14 Jeffery Express months ago as part of a project to ride every bus line from start to finish.

In fact, Monday's ride was too fast. The CTA said the new route is supposed to take

about an hour from end to end and save commuters about seven minutes each way.

Other improvements include the new shelters at 71st Street and Jeffery Boulevard. The shelters are wider than the current JC Decaux bus shelters and they feature Bus Tracker displays.

The CTA said it considered adding heat lamps to the shelters, which provide weather protection, but decided against them because of cost concerns. A CTA official said the agency has not ruled out adding heat lamps to shelters along other rapid bus routes in the future.

The Chicago Department of Transportation expects to begin implementing this service in the Loop in 2014. The CTA held public meetings last month about adding this service to Ashland and Western avenues.

Aisle be back

The CTA said it introduced the new, controversial rail cars with the aisle-facing seats to the Red Line on Monday. Two trains of eight of the new cars are just a start for the Red Line. More cars will be added to replace cars more than three decades old. The new rail cars also are on the Green and Pink lines.

Free rides giveaway

Through Wednesday, Allstate insurance company is hosting a giveaway for free train rides at Metra stations in Chicago including Jefferson Park, Ogilvie and Union stations. At these stops, riders can receive a free coffee thermos and a scratch-off card for free train rides. If riders fill out a form at one of these stations and drop it off at Ogilvie, they have a chance to win free rides for a year.

STATIONARY A weekly dispatch from a CTA station of note
This week: Jefferson Park Blue Line
 The election is over, but the Jefferson Park Blue Line on the Northwest Side is still the place to be. The station is a favorite for politicos looking to shake hands because it's a combination Metra-CTA station that sees more than 7,000 commuters daily. Besides politicos, riders also can interact with religious enthusiasts handing out pamphlets, people looking for donations and pigeons. Lately, the intermingling has been limited. The CTA has shut down one escalator to the platform for repairs until Nov. 20.

Next up: Montrose Blue Line



facebook

 Email or Phone Password
 Keep me logged in Forgot your password?

 Mitt Romney
 12,015,911 likes · 1,476,802 talking about this · 91 more tabs

SOCIAL ELECTION EXODUS

By Adam Lukach

While much of the country celebrated President Obama's re-election last Tuesday, Mitt Romney supporters were left disappointed. Some were pretty upset—upset enough to go out of their way to un-"Like" Romney's Facebook page.

Since Romney's concession on election night, his Facebook page has lost more than 55,000 likes and, as of Monday afternoon, was down to about 12 million. That works out to losing nearly 850 likes per hour, which Mashable reported and which a website is now tracking in real time. **Disappearingromney.com** has both a 12-hour monitor and a real-time tracker that graphically display his declining Facebook numbers.

By comparison, Obama's numbers are up following his win, to more than 33.1 million Facebook likes, far more than even Romney's peak numbers before the election. This isn't terribly surprising, considering an **Obama photo from Tuesday of him and the first lady embracing** became Obama's most retweeted tweet ever.

Internet commenters have suggested that the Romney Facebook fan exodus is a result of buying followers rather than election fury. What do you think? Is the Disappearing Romney site necessary? Are these upset supporters or just fleeing bot love?

ADAM LUKACH IS A REDEYE INTERN. @LUCHEEZY



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SITES FEEL THE COUPON CRUNCH

Reuters

A key part of Groupon's efforts is the massive sales force the company has built to market its daily deals to small businesses. The relationships it has built with merchants and a retail subscriber base that recently hit 200 million could help it beat back competition in daily deals and broaden its offerings, some analysts say.

Groupon controls about 50 percent of the daily deals market share in North America, according to Yipit, a New York City-based daily deal industry tracking firm.

"I don't think the industry is completely going away, though it will settle," said Arvind Bhatia, analyst with Sterne, Agee & Leach. "There may be some market share shift to the benefit of Groupon."

The margin pressure, though, could be here to stay. Groupon laid off 80 employees last week, mostly in sales, as it seeks to bring more automation to the sale process and control costs. But a big sales force is central to the company's strategy.

"It's a business that scales with bodies, with humans," said Karim Faris of Google Ventures, which invests in online coupon company WhaleShark Media. "I'm a technology investor, and I like businesses that scale with technology."

WhaleShark and other competitors such as coupons.com have focused on bringing traditional coupons into the digital era. Such companies typically get a small percentage of revenue for each sale generated by their coupons.

"Groupon is working with small retailers to give big discounts. Irregularly," said WhaleShark Chief Executive Cotter Cunningham. "We work with big retailers, to give small discounts, every day."

WHAT'S NEXT FOR GROUPOIN?

GETTYIMAGES

GROUPOUN BY THE NUMBERS

SOURCES: REUTERS, GROUPOUN, RAYMOND JAMES SURVEY

\$2.76

The all-time low price for shares of Groupon, which went public at \$20

39% 32%

of merchants in a recent survey said they were unlikely to return to a Groupon promotion over the next couple of years.
of merchants in that same survey reported losing money on promotions.

CHICAGO-BASED SITE STRUGGLING TO REGAIN ITS FOOTING

Reuters

Groupon and its compatriots in the much-hyped daily deals sphere were supposed to change the very nature of small-business advertising. Instead, it is the daily deal vendors that are racing to change as evidence mounts that their business model is fundamentally flawed.

Groupon last week reported another quarter of disappointing earnings as its core business stagnated, sending its stock down 30 percent to an all-time low of \$2.76. Shares also dropped in trading Monday.

Its biggest rival, LivingSocial, is piling up losses, and part-owner amazon.com earlier this month recorded a quarterly loss after writing down its LivingSocial investment.

Both companies are racing to diversify, venturing into more generic e-commerce areas like off-price sales through ventures such as Groupon Goods and LivingSocial's Shop. Meanwhile, upstarts are developing new variations on the discount coupon theme.

"It's clear that they need to have other models besides the email daily deals business," said Aaron Kessler, an analyst at Raymond James. "The problem is that a lot of these newer businesses have lower margins."

Critics say the torrid growth that enabled Groupon to go public at \$20 a share just a year ago was fueled by merchants buying into a new type of marketing that they didn't fully understand. The discounts offered through the Groupon coupons have turned out to be costly, and the repeat business they generate is uncertain.

"A lot of people made the mistake of overlooking the price-promotion part of



NEW APPROACH

Groupon Inc. said Monday that it is offering free standard shipping and returns for the discounted products that it sells through Groupon Goods.

this model," said Utpal Dholakia, professor of management in Rice University's Jones Graduate School of Business. "Normal advertising, Yellow Pages advertising, it really doesn't have a price promotion, it doesn't have a discounting component. That's what makes this difficult to do again and again."

A Raymond James survey of roughly 115 merchants that used daily deals services during the fall found that 39 percent of merchants said they were not likely to run another Groupon promotion over the next couple of years. The top reasons cited were high commission rate and low rate of repeat customers gained through offering a promotion.

The survey also found that 32 percent of the merchants reported losing money on the promotions, and nearly 40 percent said the Groupon offer was less effective than other types of marketing.

"I've always maintained that this is a hype-driven business built on an unsustainable business model both for the merchants and for Groupon," said Rakesh Agrawal, principal analyst at reDesign mobile, a San Francisco consulting firm.

Existing customers interested in signing up

for daily deals have waned—Groupon reported last week that the average revenue per active customer (defined as an account that has purchased a deal from the site in the previous 12 months) fell to \$63.96 in the 12 months prior to Sept. 30 from \$76.49 a year earlier.

The company has also suffered a string of high-level executive departures as its market value has shriveled to just \$1.8 billion, down from nearly \$13 billion when it went public. Groupon has also been dogged by controversy over its accounting methods, though it said last week that it had \$1.2 billion in cash and cash-equivalents with no long-term debt.

Groupon cites an array of new services and features that it hopes will make the company a crucial partner for many types of merchants over the long run.

Groupon Goods, a more traditional discount online retail operation, already accounts for much of the company's revenue growth.

"We're investing in the development of products and technology that help our merchants run their businesses more effectively, from payments and POS services to our evolving suite of marketing services including the daily deal," said Kal Raman, Groupon's senior vice president of international operations, in an email.

"By this combination we become a true merchant partner, serving the yin and the yang, both the operational and marketing pieces of each business."

Groupon CEO Andrew Mason
REUTERS FILE

\$63.96 Average revenue per active Groupon customer, according to the company.

\$76.49 Average revenue per active Groupon customer in the 12 months prior.

\$1.2 B Amount of cash and cash equivalents the company has on hand with no long-term debt.

chicago

TUESDAY
43/29
Bright lightWEDNESDAY
46/32
More sun!THURSDAY
50/34
Golden 50s

The iconic giraffe and goat sculptures at Elaine Place in Boystown have been removed.

'It's always in God's hands'

Wife of fallen firefighter said husband aspired to career since childhood

Chicago Tribune

Diane Patmon says she wasn't worried when her husband Walter left for his shift at Engine Company 121 in Beverly.

"Whatever happens, it's always in God's hands," Patmon said, looking tired as she stood in front of her home, hours after her husband collapsed and died at the firehouse after responding to a fire.

"He always wanted to be a firefighter since he was a child," she said. "Today it felt like he would be home, like he usually comes home."

Patmon, an 18-year veteran who became a firefighter at 43, went into cardiac arrest within hours of responding to a small kitchen fire in the 1500 block of West 99th Street on Sunday night, according to Chicago Fire Department spokesman Will Knight. The firefighters discovered meat burning on a stove, officials said.

After returning to his firehouse, Patmon experienced shortness of breath while cleaning equipment, Knight said. He was taken to Little Company of Mary Hospital, where he was pronounced dead at 11:21 p.m.

Patmon's body was taken early Monday to the medical examiner's office, accompanied by a procession of fire and police vehicles. Dozens of firefighters and police officers lined the streets outside the office and saluted as the procession passed under an American flag hanging from an extended fire truck ladder.

With many bowing their heads and remov-



Diane Patmon, wife of fallen firefighter Walter Patmon, speaks to the media in front of her home Monday. SCOTT STRAZZANTE/TRIBUNE

ing their helmets, the firefighters then gathered for a communal prayer before the firefighter's body was taken inside.

The death came three days after the funeral of Capt. Herbert "Herbie" Johnson, a 32-year fire department veteran who died while battling an extra-alarm blaze. Johnson was remembered Thursday during an emotional service

attended by Mayor Emanuel and hundreds of firefighters at a Southwest Side church.

Besides his wife, Patmon is survived by three daughters.

Diane Patmon described Patmon as a loving husband and committed father. The couple met while both worked at Michael Reese Hospital and they married in 1979. Their

three daughters are in their 20s.

Firefighter Dave Beason, who paused while placing purple bunting at the station house at 1700 W. 95th St., remembered Patmon as a good mentor to other firefighters.

"He was a great guy," Beason said. "He was always smiling, and he was someone who was always willing to teach you."

QUOTABLE
"IT'S A REAL MENTAL GAME HE'S PLAYING RIGHT NOW."

—Jim Zespy, owner of the record store and vintage arcade Logan Hardware in Logan Square, where gamer Rick Carter (right) is attempting to score more than 1.4 billion points on the "Nibbler" arcade game, a record feat that is expected to take 50 hours.



EXPRESS LINES

- » A Chicago Park District program funded by Coca-Cola will try to fight obesity and diabetes by offering nutrition education as well as exercise classes run by armed forces veterans.
- » Several hundred protesters marched along Michigan Avenue on Monday to voice opposition to the school closings plan being put together by Chicago Public Schools.
- » After incidents in which phone conversations with Tribune reporters were recorded without their consent by City Hall officials, a city attorney has said that there is no widespread practice of such taping and that steps have been taken to ensure it does not happen again.

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1 Walk the line

A young performer balances on a tightrope as her mother beats a drum on the streets of Hyderabad, India, on Monday. Traveling performers, who earn a meager income from putting on street shows, often scout areas to gather a large street audience. **GETTY IMAGES**



2 More work ahead

Cleaning crews are in operation Monday at an office building in Manhattan's financial district following damages from Superstorm Sandy. **GETTY IMAGES**



3 History in action

A costumed performer takes part in a traditional folk festival in San Martin, Colombia, on Sunday. The annual event, known as the International Tourism Festival of the Llano Folk, has at least 272 years of history and commemorates the native people's struggle for freedom against Spanish colonization. **REUTERS**

Voice of Elmo denies underage sex allegation

4 LOS ANGELES The puppeteer and voice behind the character Elmo on "Sesame Street" has taken a leave of absence from the children's TV show following allegations that he had a sexual relationship with a 16-year-old boy, producers said Monday.

New York-based Sesame Workshop said in a statement that its own inquiry concluded that the claim of underage sexual conduct was unsubstantiated, and that puppeteer Kevin Clash has denied any wrongdoing and called the allegation "false and defamatory."

But the company said Clash, 52, was disciplined after an internal investigation showed he "exercised poor judgment and violated company policy regarding Internet usage."

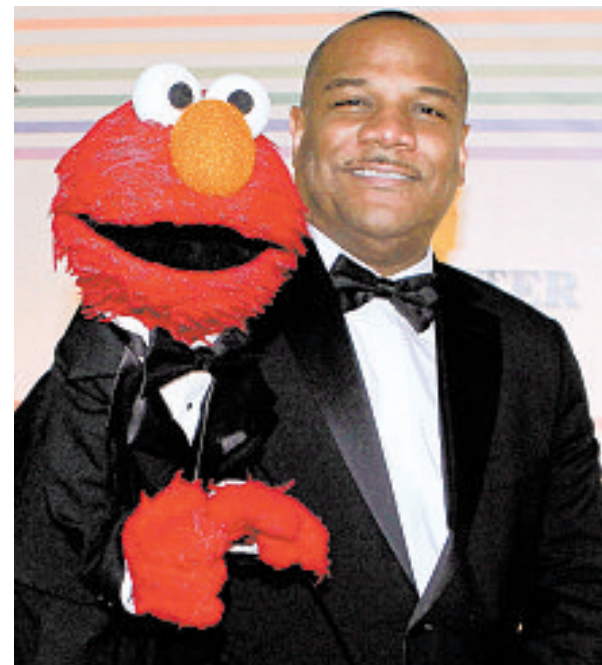
The Sesame Workshop statement said the puppeteer was "taking actions to protect his reputation" and that Sesame Workshop has "granted him a leave of absence to do so."

Neither Clash nor his personal publicist was immediately available for comment.

CNN quoted a statement from Clash acknowledging a relationship with his accuser but denying he had sexual contact with a minor.

"I am a gay man. I have never been ashamed of this or tried to hide it," it quoted him as saying. "I had a relationship with the accuser. It was between two consenting adults, and I am deeply saddened that he is characterizing it as something other than what it was."

The statement went on to say, "I'm taking a break from Sesame Workshop to deal with this false and defamatory allegation."



Elmo and his puppeteer, Kevin Clash **REUTERS FILE**

Sesame Workshop said the matter came to its attention when it received a communication in June from the accuser, now aged 23, alleging that he had a relationship with Clash beginning when he was 16 years old.

U.S. to become world's top oil producer

The U.S. will overtake Saudi Arabia to become the world's biggest oil producer before 2020, and will be energy independent 10 years later, according to a new forecast by the International Energy Agency.

5 Furnace to blame for blast?

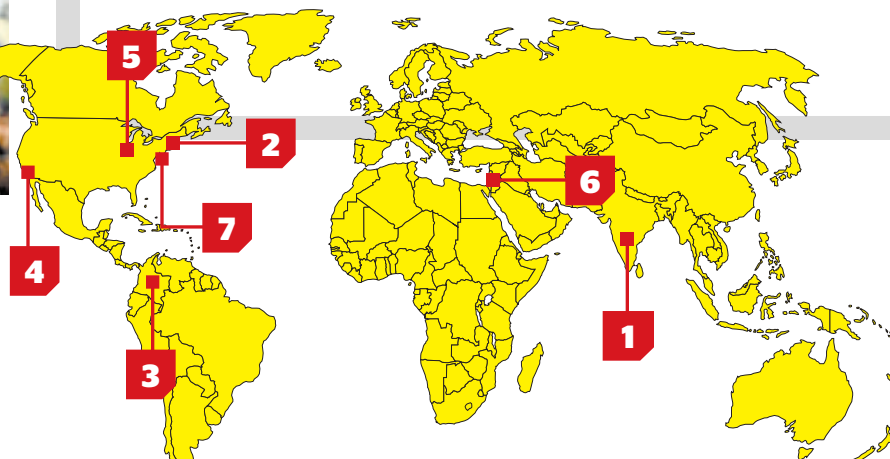
The owner of one of the homes that exploded in Indianapolis said Monday that a problem furnace could be to blame for the blast that killed two people and damaged dozens of homes, The Associated Press reported.

6 Planes strike Gaza targets

Israeli airstrikes hit Palestinian targets in Gaza overnight, scoring direct hits on a "terror tunnel" and a weapons storage facility, the military said Monday. A military representative said militants have launched more than 110 rockets since Saturday.

7 New details come to light in Petraeus scandal

New details emerged Sunday about the extra-marital affair that abruptly ended the career of CIA chief David Petraeus, including the identity of a second woman whose complaints about harassing emails from the woman with whom he had the relationship prompted the investigation.



THE DIGIT

2 weeks

Lawmakers have less than two weeks worth of scheduled work days in the lame-duck session to strike a deal that prevents the onset of \$7 trillion of spending cuts and tax increases in January known as the fiscal cliff.



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Marian Hossa

NHL winger

Anyone who saw Phoenix's Raffi Torres (above) level the Blackhawks star in an April 17 playoff game probably still gets goosebumps at the memory. While it's impossible to know what's next for Hossa until the league ends its lockout, the Slovakian star spent three days in bed after the hit and at one point thought his wife, who was in Europe at the time, was in the room. Months later, Hossa shared his thoughts with the Tribune: "First, you think about your health and if you'll be able to play again. And then you look at the future. Guys with lots of concussions, their quality of life is not the same after and you don't want to end up like that. Those thoughts come to your mind." REUTERS FILE

MAJOR HEADACHES

As research continues to tie multiple concussions to future brain disease, impaired thinking, depression and dementia, sports leagues are adapting how they address the injury. Here are four recent examples of high-profile concussions and how they were handled. REDEYE, TRIBUNE

Anthony Davis

NBA center

The Chicago native and No. 1 draft pick missed New Orleans' first visit to his hometown Nov. 3 because of a concussion suffered a couple of days before. "What's happening in football has impacted everybody," Hornets coach Monty Williams said. "He got touched up a little bit. That happens a lot in basketball. It's just that now we treat everybody like they have on white gloves and pink drawers. It's getting old. But it's just the way the league is now." The NBA fined the coach \$25,000 for criticizing the concussion policy.



Dale Earnhardt Jr.

NASCAR driver

The guys of NASCAR are as tough as in any sport, but Junior voluntarily reported concussion symptoms after an Oct. 7 race—even though he still was in the hunt for a Sprint Cup championship. Junior was ordered to miss two races but apparently had no regrets. "I don't care how tough you are, when your mind is not working the way it's supposed to, it scares the [bleep] out of you," he said before his return to the track. GETTY IMAGES



CUTLER WATCH

Chicago at San Francisco

7:30 p.m. Monday, ESPN

Chicago Tribune

Although coach Lovie Smith said quarterback Jay Cutler is feeling "a lot better" after suffering a concussion Sunday against the Texans, the Bears coach

declined to speculate on Cutler's status for Monday night's matchup versus the 49ers.

But Smith said the team would proceed with caution considering Cutler's concussion history. Cutler suffered a concussion during an October 2010 loss to the Giants and missed one game. He also had at least one concussion in college at Vanderbilt and at least one while a member

of the Broncos.

"We'll never put a guy at risk," Smith said. "No game is that important for us. Of course the players have always come first with everything that we do."

Cutler must be cleared by an independent neurologist in order to play Monday night. A player typically goes to see a neurologist if he is asymptomatic and has cleared the return-to-play protocol (neuropsychological test, running activities, symptom-free in daily living) or if he continues to have symptoms lasting beyond 14-17 days. If such symptoms persist, an MRI usually follows.

Smith said the team believes Cutler suffered the concussion when he was hit by Texans linebacker Tim Dobbins with 2 minutes, 56 seconds

left in the first half. Dobbins was flagged for unnecessary roughness on the play.

Team physician Mark Bowen dashed onto the field to check on Cutler, but Cutler, who shook his head several times, remained in the game for seven more snaps.

On the play immediately following Dobbins' hit, Cutler scrambled for 11 yards and appeared to take another shot from Texans defensive back Kareem Jackson before his headfirst dive.

Smith maintained Cutler showed no immediate concussion symptoms following the initial sideline examination.

"And if you look at his play, it's not like he was light on his feet, starry-eyed or anything like that," Smith said. "We felt like he was in control of everything ... at the time."

The NFL determined the Bears followed the proper proto-



THE STARTING LINE

■ Lance Armstrong steps down as a board member of Livestrong, the cancer-support charity he founded in 1997 ■ Mike D'Antoni signs deal to coach L.A. Lakers



Robert Griffin III

NFL quarterback

"I still refuse to say I had a concussion," the NFL's No. 2 draft pick said of the hit that knocked him out of Washington's loss to the Falcons on Oct. 7. "I had temporary memory loss." OK, then. Griffin passed the NFL's mandatory tests and played the following week, but not everybody agreed with the decision. "If [Griffin] really wanted to be an example for the game, he wouldn't even have suited up," former Giants running back Tiki Barber wrote in USA Today. **MCT FILE**

Finding some good in the bad



Jack M Silverstein

» redeyesports@tribune.com
» @readjack

Breathe, Bears fans. Just breathe with me.

The Bears may have dropped Sunday night's showdown with the Texans, and they may have again failed to win a game without Jay Cutler, and they may have turned the ball over four times without forcing any fumbles, and Robbie Gould may have missed another field goal,

and Arian Foster may be the second straight back to run for 100 yards against the Bears ... and holy hell, that all sounds horrible! Where was I going with that?

Oh right, looking for the bright spot. How about this:

The Bears played a very good team and lost a very close game. They are 7-2 and atop their division. They will play another very good team Monday night, and that team also lost its quarterback on Sunday to a concussion, so no sweat there.

Also, we learned once more what kind of tough SOB we have playing quarterback. The hit Cutler endured would have ended Jim McMahon's season. It would have put Rex Grossman on a stretcher.

The dude finished out the half and surely would have finished the game if doctors hadn't said otherwise. In fact, he scrambled for an 11-yard gain on the very next play and did not slide. If there is such a thing as "Chicago Bears football," Cutler plays it.

On the other hand, if you want to examine this game for any lasting issues that could derail a Super Bowl run, we saw Tough Jay Cutler only because of Miscalculating (Foolish?) Jay Cutler. He lost track of the line of scrimmage, he held the ball too long and decided to throw too late, and he did it while knowing he would take a hit. That's the area where Cutler must improve: self-damaging risk-taking. He's like Maverick out there, bragging to Ice Man that, yes, he is dangerous. That could be a problem.

Otherwise, let's remember this is only Chicago's second loss of the season, and one that came by a single touchdown against an elite opponent.

The Bears are 7-2. Keep Calm & Carry the Ball.

col, league spokesman Greg Aiello said. Smith said he believes the Bears go beyond protocol when it comes to injuries, particularly concussions.

"If we err [on either side], it would be as far as keeping players out longer," Smith said. "We do have a history with players. We have a history with Jay, Hunter Hillenmeyer.

"But it's not just a concussion. We do that with all of our players with any injury that they have."

Smith was asked how likely Cutler's return would have been Sunday night had the new concussion guidelines not been instituted.

"If a player has a concussion ... he's not going back in the game," Smith said. "It's as simple as that. Once we found out that Jay Cutler [and] Shea McClellin had a concussion, first, our protocol would say that they're out of the football game."

The Bears return to practice Thursday, and Smith said it would be best to have the starter determined sooner than later in order to prepare for the 49ers. If Cutler's symptoms linger, he is unlikely to even make the trip to San Francisco. Prolonged flying time can exacerbate concussion symptoms and recovery time.

Jason Campbell, who played last season with the Raiders, would

You too?

San Francisco's starting quarterback also is dealing with a concussion sustained Sunday. 49ers coach Jim Harbaugh said Monday that Alex Smith (right) is doing well a day after sustaining a concussion against the St. Louis Rams. If Smith cannot play against the Bears, Colin Kaepernick will make his first NFL start.



prepare for his 71st career start if Cutler is ruled out. Campbell completed 11 of 19 passes for 94 yards in the second half in wet conditions against the Texans.

"If Jay can't go ... Jason will be ready to go," Smith said.

The Bears also are in the process of re-signing veteran Josh McCown for insurance. McCown was scheduled to land in Chicago on Monday night.

NICE GRASS

Just like for the Bears, there's always next week for this panel to be funny.



Erin McElroy
@erinemcelroy
WGN Morning News



Scott Bolohan
@scottbolohan
RedEye contributor



Clark Jones
@thecClarkJones
Stand-up comic



John Dooley
@chicagofough
ChicagoNow blogger



Angi Taylor
@angitaylorkiss
103.5 KISS-FM

1 What did the Soldier Field turf say after Sunday's game?	"When it rains, it pours!" (rimshot)	"I really took this one in the grass."	"Wow, we took a beating last night."	"I totally need a makeover, but my mom and dad are like soooooo cheap."	"Hey home team, me + bad weather is supposed to = home-field advantage!"
2 Can the Bears' defense get even better?	Only with a few more cool nicknames. Let's call Urlacher "Walnut."	Only if the Bears traded their offense to their opponents every week.	Absolutely. Arian Foster beat us like we said, "Let Detroit go bankrupt."	Yes ... one of them can play quarterback.	Well, the defense didn't score a single point this week, so YES.
3 Which Chicago sports star is totally going to see the last "Twilight" movie?	Toews and Kane. Two words: free time.	Patrick Sharp, to see what unattractive people look like.	Ronnie Woo Wool He sang for the Twilights in the late '60s.	Urlacher. I can totally see him shrieking in delight at the sight of Robert Pattinson.	Every one of the Blackhawks. Not like they have anything else to do ...
4 A second-half lead is to Northwestern football as sand is to an hour glass.	... Googling "Northwestern second-half" is to what every panelist did.	... a quiet, peaceful evening is to the CTA? #notsafe	... David Petraeus is to biographical teamwork.	... what "bill death do us part" is to Kim Kardashian.
5 How can you tell college basketball season has started?	There is a guy in the office already printing brackets!	DePaul hasn't lost yet.	There's a shortage of 12 button suits as freshmen prepare for draft night.	Dick Vitale says "Baby!" 37 times in four minutes.	All the flights to Vegas are sold out for the month of March.

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Derrick Rose
NUCCIO DINUZZO/TRIBUNE

ONE STEP FORWARD

Chicago Tribune

Derrick Rose has taken the next step in rehabilitation from his left knee surgery: beginning cutting drills.

"He's doing great," coach Tom Thibodeau said. "We have to be patient with it. He's been very diligent. He's in every day. He's moving along. He started cutting. He's been shooting for a while now. He feels pretty good."

"Everything is going according to plan. He's not ahead of schedule. He's not behind schedule. He's exactly where he should be."

The only timetable given for Rose came in the news conference directly following the May 12 surgery to repair his torn anterior cruciate ligament when the Bulls said the All-Star guard would miss nine to 12 months. Asked if he thinks Rose will return this season, Thibodeau reiterated his stance.

"I do," he said.

Rose, who makes his offseason home in Santa Monica, Calif., could meet the Bulls in L.A. when they spend three days there beginning Thursday on their upcoming five-game trip.

"We're going to do what we think is best both for the team and Derrick," Thibodeau said. "I like him being in one place. For him, the rehab has to be the priority. That's

BOSTON 101, BULLS 95

Rajon Rondo posted 20 points, 10 assists, nine rebounds and five steals to lead the Celtics over the Bulls on Monday at the United Center. Carlos Boozer, who went without a field goal last game, scored 15 points. Luol Deng led the Bulls with 26.

what I want him to focus in on. We're going to be jumping around from city to city. He won't do that."

Rose is around his teammates constantly and often visible to reporters but off-limits for interviews.

"We see how hard he's working," Thibodeau said. "But we can't use that as a crutch. You can't replace a guy like Derrick individually. Your only chance is collectively. So we need everybody else to focus on knowing their job and doing their job."

Meanwhile, Kirk Hinrich, the man brought in to fill Rose's role, sat out Monday's game with what the team is calling a strained right hip but what Hinrich told the Tribune is in his hamstring and gluteus area. An MRI exam confirmed the strain, and there is concern the veteran point guard will miss games on the five-game trip beginning Wednesday in Phoenix.

"He's not ahead of schedule. He's not behind schedule. He's exactly where he should be."

—Bulls coach **Tom Thibodeau**, on Derrick Rose's progress in rehab

On the bright side ...

The Chicago Fire's postseason was over quickly, but there's no break for Sean Johnson. The goalkeeper has been called up by the U.S. national team for an international friendly this week against Russia in the southern Russian city of Krasnodar. The game is set for 9 a.m. Wednesday and will be televised on ESPN2 and Univision Deportes.

MOUTH WATCH

“We are expecting a little Swisher in the spring of 2013!”

—Former White Sox star **Nick Swisher**, in a post on his Facebook page Monday, announcing that he and wife JoAnna Garcia of “Animal Practice” are expecting their first child



11 A.M.

Set your alarm early for Nov. 24. That's what time the Illinois-Northwestern game—both teams' regular-season finale—will kick off. The Big Ten Network is scheduled to telecast the battle for the Land of Lincoln trophy as the Wildcats look to boost their bowl resume and the Illini look for something to build on at the end of a rough season.

14 Mos. No Payments!°°

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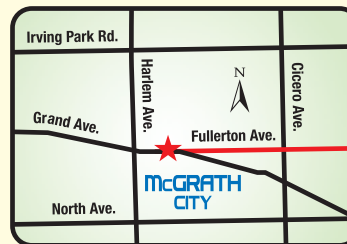
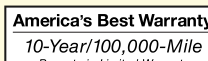
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“I’ve always been a massive fan, though for a long time I never thought they were cool enough to inspire anyone besides me. I thought I was the only one [of my generation] who liked them, then one day I realized I didn’t care. I removed the filter.”

—Kevin Parker, talking about one of his early influences, the 1970s band Supertramp



Tame Impala

When: 9 p.m. Tuesday

Where: Metro, 3730 N. Clark St.

Tickets: Sold out

THE PERKS OF BEING A LONER

Australia's Tame Impala finds pop thrills in alienation

Chicago Tribune

Kevin Parker, the Australian multi-instrumentalist who is the core member of Tame Impala, has a reputation for being obsessive about recording details. But even by his own impossibly high standards, he went over the top in making Tame Impala's second album, "Lonerism."

Parker recorded both Tame Impala albums essentially on his own in Australia (though he tours with a full band). Then he flew from his home base in Perth to rural New York to mix both albums with Dave Fridmann, who has produced two of Parker's favorite bands, the Flaming Lips and MGMT.

"The worst time for me is in the final few

hours of taking a track that you've worked on for two years and bouncing it down to the final stereo mix," he says. "The overwhelming emotion for me is complete and utter fear that I've made a mistake. I'm scared. Afterward, I obsess endlessly about it. Did I make the right decision? Were the vocals on that track too washed out with too much delay? All these cascading fears make it excruciating. You just have to get through at the end."

"I'll tell you how bad it gets: At the end of the first session of mixing with Dave on this last album—we spent two weeks in New York—I went back to Perth and realized there's too much I want to change, and scheduled another mixing session. So I mixed the album twice. It takes a whole day to mix a song, because Dave has to reconfigure his machines for each song. At one point, Dave said to me: 'The changes you're making are like picking lint off the back of a song in outer space, and

expecting people on Earth to notice the difference.' It's psychosis."

Parker can laugh about it now, in part because the results are so persuasive. After establishing himself with the psychedelic tapestry of "Innerspace" in 2010, he took Tame Impala to an even denser, more complex space with "Lonerism." It's an album about alienation and loneliness disguised as pop music with glorious crescendos and sunburst choruses.

The singer dismisses notions that the album is all about his personal sense of disconnection—sort of. "It's got nothing to do with Perth, isolation or me recording alone," he says. "It's all about situations with other people and the outside world—as in being a member of the human race and trying to connect with people. It's more about that than physical isolation."

In many ways, the key track is "Keep on

Lying," which suggests a party in full swing, with our hero at the center of it, at once in the middle of the crowd and a million miles away.

"It's about lying to your girlfriend while trying to get up the courage to tell her you don't feel anything because you're destined not to be in love with anyone, ever," he says. "I went around the room with different instruments, and eventually decided they all wanted to be soloing at different times. The sound of all that aimless jamming made it sound like this ambient, loungey jam session. And then putting all these voices on top would create this atmosphere of an ongoing ambient party. The guy in the song feels alienated from all this. He's not part of the party even though he's in the middle of it. There are all these people, all these voices around him, and he can't hear what they're saying."



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■ Looper (R) D (Closed caption) 4:35, 7:35, 10:25
■ Flight (R) D 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 10:20
■ Argo (R) D 1:25, 4:10, 7:15, 10:05
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) D 1:20, 4:40, 7:05, 9:50
■ The House I Live In (NR) D 1:40
■ AMC Independent The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) D 2:00, 4:50, 7:30, 10:10
■ Cloud Atlas (R) D 2:15, 6:00, 9:45

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■ The Master (R) D 1:50, 4:45, 7:40
■ The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) D 1:35, 4:10, 7:15, 9:50
■ A Late Quartet (R) D 1:30, 4:00, 7:10, 9:35
■ The Flat (NR) D 2:00, 7:25
■ Brooklyn Castle (PG) D 1:40, 4:30, 9:45
■ The Sessions (R) D 1:45, 4:15, 7:30, 9:55

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■ Taken 2 (PG-13) 1:20, 4:00, 6:40, 9:00
■ Sinister (R) 6:35, 9:20
■ Argo (R) 11:10, 2:00, 4:50, 8:00, 10:50
■ Fun Size (PG-13) 12:45, 3:25
■ Cloud Atlas (R) 11:15, 3:05, 10:25
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 11:00, 2:30, 3:30, 5:40, 8:30, 9:50
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 12:00, 6:30
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) 11:00, 2:15, 4:35, 7:35, 10:35
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ 11:40, 12:40, 2:10, 2:50, 3:50, 5:20, 6:10, 6:40, 7:10, 8:50, 9:30, 10:00, 10:30
■ Flight (R) 11:30, 12:30, 3:00, 4:00, 6:20, 7:20, 9:40, 10:40
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) ★ 11:25
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ 1:10, 4:20, 7:40, 11:00
■ Led Zeppelin "Celebration" Day Encore (NR) 7:30

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■ Cloud Atlas (R) 3:15, 6:30, 9:45
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) ★ 4:50, 7:10, 9:30
■ Argo (R) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00

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■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) D 11:05, 1:45, 4:20, 6:55, 9:40
■ Fun Size (PG-13) D 11:10, 1:30, 3:40, 5:50, 8:00, 10:15
■ Flight (R) D 11:00, 11:35, 12:20, 1:55, 3:00, 3:35, 5:20, 6:00, 6:50, 8:45, 9:15, 9:50
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) D 12:00, 2:35, 5:10, 7:25, 10:05
■ Sinister (R) D 11:25, 4:30, 9:35
■ AMC Independent Middle of Nowhere (R) ★ D 11:15, 1:50, 4:35, 7:15, 9:50
■ Paranormal Activity 4 (R) D 7:50, 9:55
■ Alex Cross (PG-13) D 1:55, 7:05
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D 12:30, 2:55, 5:25, 7:55, 10:15
■ Hotel Transylvania (PG) D 11:00, 1:15, 3:25, 5:40
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 5:00, 7:30, 10:00
■ Silent Hill: Revelation (R) D 11:50, 2:25
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) 11:40, 2:30, 5:05, 7:40, 10:10

GENE SISKEL FILM CENTER
164 State Street
(312) 846-2800
■ Some Came Running (NR) 6:00
■ Detropia (NR) 6:00, 8:00

LOGAN THEATRE
2646 N. Milwaukee Ave., Chicago
(773) 252-0628

MUSIC BOX
3733 N. Southport, Chicago
(773) 871-6604
■ Holy Motors (NR) 4:30, 7:00, 9:35
■ The Bay (R) 9:45
■ The Loneliest Planet (NR) 5:00
■ Coldplay Live 2012 (NR) 7:30

THE PATIO THEATER
6008 W. Irving Park Road
(773) 685-4291
■ Frankenweenie (PG) 7:30

RIVER EAST 21 (AMC)
322 E. Illinois Street, Chicago
888-AMC-4FUN
Show times change daily
■ Skyfall (PG-13) D 12:10, 1:20, 2:00, 2:40, 3:40, 4:30, 5:40, 7:15, 8:00, 9:15, 10:10, 10:50
■ Looper (R) D (Closed caption) 5:10
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) D 12:30, 3:35, 6:40, 9:40
■ Flight (R) D 11:00, 12:25, 1:25, 3:55, 4:45, 7:30, 8:15, 10:55
■ Argo (R) D 11:15, 12:05, 2:20, 3:00, 5:20, 6:05, 8:25, 9:05, 11:35
■ The Sessions (R) D 11:55, 3:30, 6:45, 9:30
■ Paranormal Activity 4 (R) D (Closed caption) 10:30
■ Alex Cross (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 10:40
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D 11:55, 12:45, 2:35, 4:20, 7:05, 8:05, 10:15
■ Seven Psychopaths (R) D (Closed caption) 11:45, 2:25, 5:25, 8:20
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 11:00
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) 11:05, 1:50, 4:55, 7:50, 10:45
■ Pitch Perfect (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 12:15, 3:15
■ Cloud Atlas (R) D 11:00, 9:55
■ Lincoln (PG-13) D 11:10, 11:40, 1:30, 2:30, 3:10, 5:05, 6:10, 6:20, 6:50, 8:45, 9:50, 10:35
■ AMC Independent Jab Tak Hai Jaan (NR) D 11:50, 3:20, 6:55, 10:25
■ AMC Independent Son of Sardar (NR) D 11:35, 3:05, 6:40, 10:05

SHOWPLACE VILLAGE CROSSING (AMC)
7000 Carpenter Rd., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #2309
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ D 10:45, 11:45, 1:15, 2:15, 3:15, 4:45, 5:45, 6:45, 8:15, 9:15, 10:15
■ Here Comes the Boom (PG) D 2:50, 7:50
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) D 11:00, 1:00, 2:00, 4:15, 5:00, 7:00, 8:00, 10:00, 10:45
■ Fun Size (PG-13) D 12:30, 5:30, 10:30
■ Flight (R) D 10:30, 12:45, 1:45, 4:05, 5:05, 7:15, 8:20, 10:30
■ Argo (R) D 10:40, 1:40, 4:40, 7:40, 10:40
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) D 12:00, 2:25, 4:50, 7:20, 9:50
■ Sinister (R) D 12:40, 3:30, 6:20, 9:10
■ Paranormal Activity 4 (R) D 4:10, 9:30
■ Alex Cross (PG-13) D 4:25, 7:00
■ Skyfall: The IMAX Experience (PG-13) D 12:30, 4:00, 7:30, 10:45
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D 11:20, 1:50, 4:20, 6:50, 9:20
■ Hotel Transylvania (PG) D 11:30, 2:00
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 9:35
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 12:00, 3:00, 6:00, 9:00
■ Pitch Perfect (PG-13) D 10:30, 1:20, 6:30
■ Cloud Atlas (R) D 11:10, 3:10, 7:10
■ A Secret Affair (NR) ★ D 10:45, 1:45, 4:45, 7:45, 10:45

WEBSTER PLACE 11 (REGAL)
1471 W. Webster Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1641
■ Argo (R) 1:15, 4:10, 7:15, 10:15
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ 11:30, 12:50, 3:00, 4:00, 6:10, 7:10, 9:20, 10:20
■ Sinister (R) 1:30, 4:15, 6:50, 9:30
■ Pitch Perfect (PG-13) 11:55, 2:35, 5:15, 7:50, 10:25
■ Cloud Atlas (R) 1:00, 5:00, 9:00
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) 2:00, 4:50, 7:20, 10:00
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 12:00, 2:40, 5:20, 8:00, 10:30
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) 12:20, 2:50, 5:30, 8:10, 10:45
■ Flight (R) 12:40, 1:10, 3:50, 4:20, 7:00, 7:30, 10:10, 10:40

SHOWPLACE GALEWOOD 14 (AMC)
E. Side of Central Ave., just S. of Grand Ave., Chicago
(800) 326-3264 #1646
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ D 1:40, 2:40, 5:00, 6:00, 8:20, 9:20
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) D 2:00, 4:50, 7:40, 10:30
■ Fun Size (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 2:00, 4:25, 6:55, 9:15
■ Flight (R) ★ D 1:00, 2:05, 3:00, 4:10, 5:10, 6:10, 7:15, 8:25, 9:25, 10:25
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) D 2:45, 5:15, 10:15
■ Sinister (R) D (Closed caption) 6:25, 9:10
■ Paranormal Activity 4 (R) D (Closed caption) 1:15, 3:45, 6:05, 8:35
■ Alex Cross (PG-13) D 1:20, 4:00, 6:45, 9:20
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) ★ D 2:10, 4:45, 7:20, 10:00
■ Hotel Transylvania (PG) D (Closed caption) 1:45, 4:05
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 3:30, 6:00, 8:30
■ Silent Hill: Revelation (R) D 1:05
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 1:00, 3:50, 6:40, 9:30

SHOWPLACE CICERO 14 (AMC)
4779 W. Cermak., Cicero
(800) 326-3264 #1644
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ D 12:30, 2:15, 3:45, 5:30, 7:00, 8:30, 10:30
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) D 1:00, 2:30, 3:00, 3:45, 5:15, 6:30, 8:00, 9:15, 10:40
■ Fun Size (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 12:30, 2:50, 5:15
■ Flight (R) D 12:40, 3:00, 4:00, 6:20, 7:20, 9:40, 10:40
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) D 12:35, 3:15, 5:45, 8:10, 10:35
■ Sinister (R) D (Closed caption) 6:45, 9:30
■ Paranormal Activity 4 (R) D (Closed caption) 1:45, 4:10, 6:30, 9:00
■ Alex Cross (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 7:30, 10:10
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D 2:15, 5:00, 7:40, 10:20
■ Hotel Transylvania (PG) D (Closed caption) 2:20, 4:50
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 6:00, 8:30, 11:00
■ Silent Hill: Revelation (R) D 1:10, 3:40
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) 1:40, 4:20, 7:10, 10:00

SHOWPLACE ICON AT ROOSEVELT COLLECTION
Clark & Roosevelt, South Loop, Chicago
(312) 564-2104
■ Silent Hill: Revelation 3D (R) 7:50, 11:00
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 1:20, 2:30, 4:00, 5:10, 6:40, 9:20
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) ★ (Closed caption) 1:50, 4:40
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) ★ 12:50, 3:30, 6:10, 8:50
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ (Closed caption) 2:10, 5:20, 8:30
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ 12:10, 12:40, 1:10, 1:40, 2:50, 3:20, 3:50, 4:20, 4:50, 6:00, 6:30, 7:00, 7:30, 8:00, 9:15, 9:45, 10:15, 10:45, 11:15
■ Taken 2 (PG-13) 2:00, 5:00, 7:40, 10:40
■ Argo (R) (Closed caption) 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:10
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) ★ 1:30, 4:30, 7:15, 10:00
■ Sinister (R) (Closed caption) 7:45, 10:50
■ Flight (R) ★ 12:30, 3:00, 3:40, 6:20, 7:10, 9:30, 10:20
■ Cloud Atlas (R) (Closed caption) 3:10, 6:50, 10:30
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ VIP Premium 21+ 12:40, 1:40, 3:50, 4:50, 7:00, 8:00, 10:15, 11:15

**OAK PARK
LAKE CINEMAS (CLASSIC)**
1022 Lake Street, Oak Park
(630) 444-FILM #560
■ Skyfall (PG-13) ★ 1:00, 4:00, 7:00, 10:00
■ Wreck-It Ralph (PG) ★ 1:40, 4:00, 6:20, 8:40
■ Flight (R) ★ 1:00, 3:55, 6:50, 9:45
■ Argo (R) 2:20, 4:55, 7:30, 10:05
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) ★ 1:10, 3:20, 5:30, 7:40, 9:50
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) ★ 12:00, 2:20, 4:40, 7:00, 9:20
■ Cloud Atlas (R) 1:00, 4:30, 8:00

**EVANSTON
CENTURY 12/CINEARTS 6 (CENTURY)**
1715 Maple Ave., Evanston
(847) 492-0123
■ Hotel Transylvania (PG) D (Closed caption) 2:20
■ Sinister (R) D (Closed caption) 11:30, 4:50, 10:50
■ Argo (R) D (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:20, 6:10, 7:35, 9:00, 10:25
■ Looper (R) D (Closed caption) 11:20, 2:05, 5:00, 7:45, 10:40
■ The Perks of Being a Wallflower (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:25, 2:15, 4:45, 7:25, 10:00
■ Seven Psychopaths (R) D (Closed caption) 11:55, 2:35, 5:15, 7:55, 10:35
■ Cloud Atlas (R) D (Closed caption) 11:10, 2:50, 6:30, 10:10
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D (Closed caption) 11:05, 11:35, 1:45, 2:15, 4:25, 4:55, 7:05, 9:45
■ Wreck-It Ralph 3D (PG) (Closed caption) 12:25, 3:05, 5:45, 8:25, 11:00
■ Flight (R) D (Closed caption) 11:15, 12:50, 2:25, 4:00, 5:35, 7:10, 8:45, 10:20
■ The Man With the Iron Fists (R) D (Closed caption) 12:20, 3:00, 5:30, 8:00, 10:45
■ Skyfall (PG-13) (Closed caption) 12:30, 3:45, 7:00, 10:15
■ Skyfall (PG-13) D (Closed caption) 11:00, 11:40, 1:20, 2:10, 2:55, 4:35, 5:25, 6:10, 7:50, 8:40, 9:25, 11:00
■ The Sessions (R) D (Closed caption) 12:15, 2:40, 5:05, 7:30, 9:55
■ Led Zeppelin "Celebration" Day Encore (NR) D 7:30
■ A Royal Affair (R) D 1:00, 4:10, 7:20, 10:30

Welcome back, Aimee

Chicago Tribune

Last month's release of Aimee Mann's "Charmer" marked her first new album in four years. It was worth the wait. A whip-smart singer-songwriter, Mann uses her latest song cycle to ponder the shadowy narcissist that can lurk beneath a charismatic exterior.

She also spends a lot of time taking her music on the road. Mann plays Park West on Wednesday and Thursday. We caught up with Mann by phone to talk about narcissists, crazy girls and playing for President Obama at the White House.

In a lot of the songs on "Charmer," you address this idea of the charming narcissist. What drew you to writing about that kind of personality type?

I had written the song "Charmer" about a friend of mine who is charming in a nice way. But as I was writing it, I really started to think about the whole mechanism of charm, what was behind it and the various manifestations of it. It became more of a theme from song to song.

Your song "Crazytown" is one of the best songs I've ever heard about the phenomenon of the "crazy girl." What was the inspiration for that?

It was inspired by a friend of mine. He had a [female] friend who would threaten suicide. He and a group of friends started talking about it and said, "We need to

intervene." They called the cops. You have to. Of course she was furious at the friends and said, "But I didn't mean it!" To me, that's a really classic thing. If you didn't mean it, then you're using the drama and threats to hold your friends hostage.

Another friend of mine consistently goes out with these girls: the short skirts, high heels, up for anything, super spontaneous, hanging out the window of the car yelling at passers-by. Invariably he ends up holding their hair back as they throw up at the end of the night or taking them home in a drunken stupor. Women obviously have the equivalent of that, the bad boy or the mess or the alcoholic person.

It's a human problem. There are a lot of facets to it, but the crazy girl is a classic.

You performed at the White House last year. What was that experience like?

It really was incredible. The White House is almost like this beautiful little museum. The theme of [the day] was the celebration of poetry. In the afternoon there was a seminar with poetry students, high school students and poets. ...

To have the culmination of that day be Barack Obama sitting right in front of you listening to you play—it was incredible.

Aimee Mann

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music

2 bands, 2 disappointments

ALBUM REVIEW



Take Me Home

One Direction



By Kyle Kramer

FOR REDEYE

As the latest standard-bearers of both the British Invasion and boy-band mania, One Direction excels at generating excitement. In particular, the group creates pandemonium in every label

executive's favorite form—record sales—which means that "Take Me Home," the quick follow-up to the group's wildly popular debut, "Up All Night," is inevitably a bit of a cash grab.

There's nothing wrong with an artist trying to sell records, of course, but rarely does it feel quite this cynical. Almost every song on "Take Me Home" appears carefully engineered to stick to a three-minute run

time and the same strict structural formula in which two verses crescendo into forgettable choruses. The sonic palette chosen for this can't-lose endeavor falls somewhere between a clubby Snow Patrol and a dull rendition of "Tubthumping" (although the comparison is unfair to both Snow Patrol and Chumbawamba).

Lyricaly, One Direction rarely rises above the basic constructs of yeah-yeah choruses or weak relationship aphorisms that, despite frequently using the club as a backdrop, are likely to sound cliché to middle-schoolers. When the group does switch things up, it's often to revisit the patronizing girl-you-deserve-better theme of their breakout single "What Makes You Beautiful," with lyrics such as "You'll never treat yourself right darling, but I want you to" on "Little Things." While they may be presented as heartthrobs, the boys ultimately come off as the kind of creepy, "sensual" guy who's always offering to give back rubs. "Take Me Home" is an equally empty gesture.

ALBUM REVIEW



Crystal Castles (III)



Crystal Castles

One look over the tracklist for Crystal Castles' third album, which features the titles "Plague," "Sad Eyes" and "Child I Will Hurt You," should be enough to reassure any listener that the electronic duo has not abandoned its generally grim aesthetic. If anything, it may

serve as a warning that Crystal Castles has absorbed some of the lessons of their successors in the past couple years, mining heavy bass and washed-out vocals for a dark atmosphere rather than relying on in-your-face abrasiveness.

The result of this shift is an album that is more subdued than either of Crystal Castles' previous outings. More polished, hulking basslines bring the Crystal Castles sound closer to pop or dance sounds—"Affection" could pass for a Timbaland outtake, while "Telepath" is one dubstep bass drop away from popping up in a Skrillex set. Placing the bass so high in the mix, however, impedes movement over the course of individual songs and obscures elements such as vocals



even more than the group might normally attempt.

The resulting music blends into a monotone, turning that aspired-toward grimness into something closer to a permeating unpleasantness. There's something admirable to the approach—particularly in the way that moments such as the airy ending of "Violent Youth" or the shimmering closer "Child I Will Hurt You" rise out of it and offer relief—but the album is ultimately hard to enjoy, and not in a good way.

KYLE KRAMER IS A REDEYE SPECIAL CONTRIBUTOR.



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TROPHY MEN

'MAGIC MIKE' DUDES ARE TOPS IN A FEW CATEGORIES

By Kate Bernot | REDEYE

"Magic Mike"... Oscar winner? At least one guy thinks it could happen. **Matthew McConaughey** reportedly is showing up at special pre-awards-season screenings of the man-tastic movie, which was released this summer, to drum up best supporting actor Oscar buzz. ("Magic Mike" was recently released on DVD, if you need a refresher in its cinematic merits.) While we're not 100 percent convinced of its Oscar-worthiness, "Magic Mike" definitely would sweep these five fictional awards.

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Best choreography

Ginuwine's "Pony" was meant for Channing Tatum's moves, but this level of grinding and thrusting doesn't just happen. We can imagine some very exacting rehearsal sessions: "No, Channing, it's shake, shake, spin, THEN pelvic thrust! Again!"



Best costumes (chaps category)

Take your pick: sailors, cowboys, firemen, soldiers. Now remove their shirts. While "Magic Mike's" costume designer could have put all the guys in Speedos, he or she got creative instead. So creative, in fact, that sequin vests and ties without shirts almost made sense.



Best Tarzan cameo (non-ape edition)

Real-life wrestler Kevin Nash has quite a few years on his stagmates, but he keeps up remarkably well. Maybe he's just used to donning Spandex in front of screaming fans?



Best hidden anti-drug message

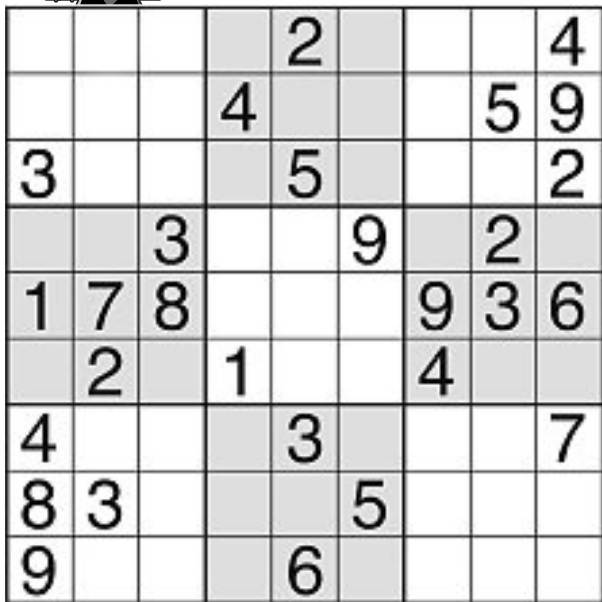
What with all the tear-away pants, it's easy to overlook the sideplot involving Alex Pettyfer's drug-scheme-gone-wrong. Cody Horn's screaming fit when she finds her brother passed out after a binge is a solid reminder that the lifestyle isn't all rhinestones and dollar bills.



Best poster tagline

"Work All Day. Work It All Night." Yes, that's the brilliant marketing slogan the movie went with. And you know what? We still saw it. Twice.





DIFFICULTY RATING: ★★☆☆☆

4	2	8	1	9	3	5	7	6
6	7	5	8	4	2	1	3	9
1	9	3	6	7	5	4	8	2
3	1	7	5	2	4	6	9	8
2	8	9	3	6	1	7	4	5
5	6	4	7	8	9	3	2	1
7	4	2	9	5	6	8	1	3
9	5	1	4	3	8	2	6	7
8	3	6	2	1	7	9	5	4

MONDAY'S SOLUTIONS

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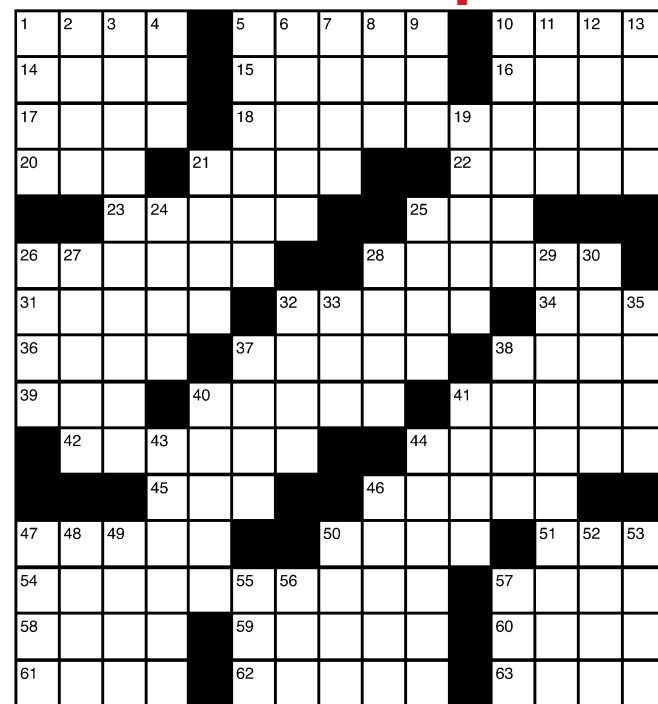
ACROSS

- Learn by __; memorize
- Makes gentle
- Puncture
- Gung-ho
- Popeye's Oyl
- Castro's land
- Fires, slangily
- Soaked through
- Golfer Ernie
- Actor Douglas
- Slip away from
- Kick out, as tenants
- Get __ of; eliminate
- Baby hooters
- Washes off
- Goes out with
- Eyeglasses, for short
- Drink like a dog
- Let fall
- Blackboard writer's need
- Sandwich shop
- Suture
- Like a chimney flue
- Actor Matt __
- "You __, you lose"
- Peaceful
- Toilet paper layer
- Sheets, pillow cases
- Bert's "Sesame Street" buddy
- Upper room
- Smallest two-digit number
- Item in a Chinese stir-fry
- Macho one
- Foundation
- Elevate
- Weapons
- Jacuzzi
- Possessed
- Usually benign growth

DOWN

- Runner's contest
- Egg-shaped
- Hollywood
- Asner & Koch
- Subjects
- Warn

puzzles



- Soft-furred weasel cousin
- Christmas __; Dec. 24
- __ up; arrange
- Burns with hot liquid
- Ballerina's skirt
- Not up yet
- Commanded
- Harness straps
- Doctor's bags
- Biden, for short
- Schroder or Santorum

- Likelihood
- Merchandise
- Depend
- Basic
- Beauty shop
- Oxford or loafer
- Mrs. Nixon
- Yearn
- Snug & comfy
- Show courage
- Shoe bottoms
- Fender blemish

- Gives one's views
- Used a sieve
- __ up; bungle
- Recedes
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THE DIGIT

\$5 That's how much Louis C.K. will charge for his latest stand-up special on his website, louisck.com, he announced Monday on Twitter. The show first will air on HBO sometime next year.



“ I was in such a state of deprivation—physical and emotional.”

—Anne Hathaway, in *Vogue* magazine, on the rigors of playing Fantine in “*Les Misérables*,” due in theaters next month. She continued: “When I got home, I couldn’t react to the chaos of the world without being overwhelmed.”

HOT DATE

DEC. 18 That’s when Chief Keef’s debut album, “*Finally Rich*,” is set to drop, his record label announced Monday.

In and out

Well, there go the RedEye staff’s team-dance dreams. MTV is pulling the plug on “*American Idol*” judge Randy Jackson’s “*America’s Best Dance Crew*,” the network announced Monday. MTV does plan, however, to resuscitate the Nick Cannon-hosted show “*Wild ‘n Out*” and air it on sibling network MTV2.

LOOK WHO’S 40!

The American Music Awards is going all out for its 40th anniversary show Sunday on ABC. The latest artists added to the already long list of performers: Kelly Clarkson, Carly Rae Jepsen, Psy, The Wanted and Swizz Beatz featuring Chris Brown and Ludacris. More are expected to be announced later in the week, billboard.com reports.

Anne Hathaway
GETTY IMAGES/PHOTOS

“ If I feel too much like I’m wearing the pants, I start to feel uncomfortable and then we break up.”

—Taylor Swift, to Harper’s *Bazaar* magazine, explaining that she prefers an “equal” relationship

Taylor Swift

Whoa, man

GQ’s Men of the Year cover features exactly zero men. It does feature Rihanna wearing exactly one article of clothing. Riri posted an image of the racy cover Monday on Twitter, and something tells us the men’s mag subscribers won’t be complaining about this.

